



THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

February 9, 2022

Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 425

Summary: HB 425 bans the sale, transfer and possession of unserialized firearms, as defined by the ATF. These guns, often called ghost guns or Polymer 80s, represent the fastest form of gun violence in our state and our country.

Overview: This bill comes after four years of collaboration across a broad coalition of partners in law enforcement, advocacy, and local leaders. I am particularly thankful to have the strong commitments of Speaker Jones and Attorney General Brian Frosh, who you'll hear from today.

This bill bans unserialized frames and receivers, therefore cutting off the supply of untraceable firearms to prohibited people- namely felons, domestic abusers and those who are underage. This bill does not end the hobby of homemade gunsmithing- it simply requires that manufacturers serialize the frames that they sell and that a proper background check is conducted.

HB425 creates uniformity across often technical and confusing gun laws in our state. It makes it clear for manufacturers and gun dealers how to proceed under our law. This bill also sets our state up to be fully aligned with new federal regulations that are expected to be enacted in the next few months. We have aimed to extend commonly accepted standards, and not invent new conventions.

Law-abiding gun owners will not become “criminals” overnight. It offers a clear pathway with several options for hobbyists to make their homemade guns compliant with the new law and a reasonable timetable. Last week, the [often conservative Frederick News-Post](#) editorial board called the bill’s proposals “eminently reasonable.”

Since I last presented this bill, my district has become the home to the first ghost gun homicide in Montgomery County. Axel Trejos was shot dead on a basketball court at the Plum Gar Recreation Center, in front of his brothers, who are just 15 and 9 years old. Please support HB 425 and ensure we end the ghost gun violence in our state.